FOFA Gallery presents

En Masse
Alison Reiko Loader & Christopher Plenzich

Mixing entomology with media art, *En Masse* is an interdisciplinary, interspecies project that explores the secret lives of forest tent caterpillars. Bringing together science and art, human and animal, subject and object, it features videos, drawings, and performances made about, and with, the *M. disstria* moth, significantly during its larval form. Alongside caterpillar drawings, videos and projection screens made of cocoons, researcher-creators and live insects will inhabit the site and invite viewers into their display.

En Masse was made at Concordia University's Departments of Biology, Communication Studies, the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema, the Centre for Digital Arts, and Fine Arts Research Facilities.

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Alison Reiko Loader
Full-time student, part-time instructor, lapsed animation filmmaker.

A PhD Candidate in Communication Studies, Alison studies old optical technologies, teaches digital media, and dabbles in maker culture—playing with insects, lenses, plants, projectors and assorted ephemera. Half media artist and half media historian, her past includes game design in Tokyo and directing at the National Film Board of Canada. Alison has taught in Concordia's Computation Arts and Film Animation programs since 2001. She enjoys working on collaborative research and art projects of all sorts.

Christopher Plenzich
Scientist, computer nerd, first-time artist, hypochondriac.

Currently working towards an MSc in Biology, with research concerning the foraging behaviours of the forest tent caterpillar, Christopher is a jack-of-all-trades/master-of-some kind of guy. In future endeavours, he hopes to utilize his seemingly random skills to explore the topics of crowdsourcing, using social media as a tool for geographic analysis, and most importantly, citizen science.